Appl. No. 09/359,599 Amdt dated February 4, 2004

Reply to Office Action of October 7, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed October 7, 2003

and the Advisory Action mailed January 22, 2004. Claims 1-27 were pending and rejected. In response,

Applicants have amended claims 1,10, and 19 and cancelled claims 9, 18, and 27. Applicants submit that all

pending claims are patentable.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being allegedly directed to non-statutory subject

matter. Applicants contend that the remaining claims, as amended, are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §101. The

claims as amended now explicitly recite a practical application for the claimed invention.

Independent claims 1,10, and 19 recite methods, systems and computer readable media for computing

a diversity measure for a "group of web pages, C, having n elements, wherein the diversity measure indicates

a level of complexity for the group of web pages." The controlling cases in the determination of statutory

subject matter are the Federal Circuit's rulings in State Street Bank & Trust Co., v. Signature Financial

Group, 47 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596 (Fed Cir. July 23, 1998), and AT&T Corp. v. Excel Communications, Corp. 50

USPQ2d 1447 (Fed Cir. April 14, 1999). State Street holds that a claim is statutory where it recites the

"transformation of data ... by a machine through a series of mathematical calculations" to provide a

"concrete, tangible and useful result."

In Excel Communications, the Court found a claim for generating and storing a "primary

interexchange carrier code (PIC) to be patentable: "The PIC indicator represents information about the

call recipient's PIC, a useful, non-abstract result that facilitates differential billing of long-distance calls made

by an IXC's subscriber." The present invention generates a complexity measure for a web page. The

diversity measure is concrete, because it has a specific definition, which is listed in the claim and

described in greater detail in the specification. Like the claims in Excel Communications, the physical

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storage media need not be claimed for the result to be tangible. The result is useful as it allows for greater

ease and organization of web pages. In light of the fact that the claimed invention performs a transformation

of data through a series of mathematical calculations to produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result, it is

submitted that claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19-26 recite patentable subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph. Specifically, the Examiner contends

that the claims at issue are enabled only for web pages, rather than for all of combinatorial structures. As the

Applicants have amended the independent claims to recite diversity measurements for groups of web pages,

the Applicants contend that the claims, as amended are enabled.

Finally, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Malomsoky in view of Popvic. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Independent claims 1, 10, and

19 claim methods, systems, and computer readable media for measuring the complexity of groups of web

pages, through the following steps:

(a) identifying M substructures c_1 through c_M each having m elements from among the n

elements of the group of web pages C, where M equals $n! / [(n-m)! \ m!];$

(b) for each substructure c_i, for i from 1 to M, determining a number n_i of the M substructures

 c_1 through c_M that are similar to the substructure c_i ; and

(c) computing a first entropy $\Phi(m)$ based upon all the numbers n_i computed during step (b) and

based upon M in computed step (a);

Neither Malmosky or Popvic disclose generating diversity measurements for groups of web pages by the

claimed method. Malomosky, which discloses a system for modeling virtual paths, does not disclose

identifying substructures each having a predetermined combinatorial substructures, determining similarity

scores, and computing entropies for groups of web pages or any other structures. Malmosky includes no

mention of breaking complex structures into their components and evaluating the similarities and

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dissimilarities of said components. Rather Malomsky discloses generating an entropy rate according to

probabilistic functions and includes no mention of web pages or the measurement thereof. The system of

Malomsky is directed solely towards analysis of network paths and provides no suggestion of alternate

applications.

Popvic is similarly deficient of any mention of the claimed features. Popvic, is directed towards a

system for generating models of geometric structures. The system of Popvic generates approximations of

geometric models as groups of incrementally smaller triangles. Popvic discloses a gradual increase of

resolution, wherein the structure is organized into multiple models having differing numbers of vertices,

transformations between the models are established, and a final estimate is generated. Additionally, Popvic

includes no mentions of groups of web pages or the measurement thereof. The method of Popvic is directed

solely towards measure the structure and organization of geometric structures and provides no suggestion

for the method's use outside of purely geometric structures.

Thus, as neither Popvic nor Malomsky, either alone, or in combination, disclose or suggest the features of

the claimed invention, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his rejection.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject

patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully

requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 24-0037 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: rebray 5, 2004

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